TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1936 - SB 1953

February 28, 2020

SUMMARY OF BILL: Establishes legislative intent, subject to appropriation in the general appropriations act, for the Department of Education (DOE) to annually receive sufficient funds to procure and implement a statewide career aptitude assessment program. Requires DOE to make the career aptitude assessment program available to local education agencies at no cost, if sufficient funding is appropriated. Encourages guidance counselors to use the results of the career aptitude assessments to discuss potential career opportunities and aligned educational pathways with students.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$600,000/FY20-21 and Subsequent Years

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-412 local education agencies (LEAs) are required to administer a career aptitude assessment to students in grades seven or eight.
- The proposed legislation will require DOE to make a career aptitude assessment program available to LEAs at no cost, if funding is appropriated.
- It is assumed that the career aptitude assessment will be available to all students in grades six through twelve; this is approximately 500,000 students.
- The cost for DOE to provide a career aptitude assessment will be based on several factors, including: the range of options that are chosen; the choice of aptitude test and provider; and the outcome of a competitive bidding process.
- Currently DOE is involved in a pilot program with YouScience® which provides performance measures of aptitudes. Based on rates for this program, the recurring increase in state expenditures to implement a statewide career aptitude program is estimated to be \$600,000 in FY20-21 and subsequent years.
- It is assumed that LEAs are currently using free online career aptitude assessments to comply with current law; therefore, any cost savings to LEAs resulting from DOE becoming the career aptitude assessment provider are estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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